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## Summer's Innocence

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## Summer's Innocence

Melissa Morgan

We don't talk about the lack of  
words, sentences, whole conversations  
that should be filling the empty atmosphere  
like a jar packed with air from side to side.  
I just sit on the blacktop  
across from her focused face as she's  
so absorbed into the kaleidoscope colored  
chalk she clutches creating a masterpiece.  
When she finishes, blue chalk smudged on  
her button nose countless colors all over  
her small frame, she grabs my small hand,  
coating it with matching purple residue  
Relocating us to the front of her finalized portrait.  
We're like an exact mirror image,  
on the blacktop in chalk form we hold hands.  
Same as this moment.  
Above our heads in sloppy font,  
"Best Buddys" with the sun nodding in agreement.  
Pinky promising childish cherishes,  
we hear the calling of different mothers  
across the playground, we humbly hug  
smiling and giggling bye-byes.  
It was a gentle visit  
but I did not see her again.